



1646

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Reilly

Serial No: 09/845,025

Filed: April 27, 2001

For: Neuroprotective Methods and
Compositions

Attorney Docket No. CIBT-P01-098

Art Unit: 1646

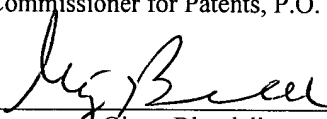
Examiner: M. Brannock

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M.G.J
6/3/03

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REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In reply to the outstanding Restriction Requirement, mailed April 23, 2003, in connection with the above application, Applicants hereby elect with traverse Group I, drawn to methods of administering a polypeptide. Applicants elect this invention with traverse, because claims 1-14 encompass overlapping subject matter based on methods of administering particular therapeutic compositions comprising hedgehog and a neurotrophic factor. Accordingly, searches related to polypeptide and polynucleotide therapeutics are co-extensive, and Groups I and II could be examined simultaneously without significant additional burden.

In addition, Applicants submit that claims 1-14 are linking claims for Groups I and II. Applicants respectfully remind the Examiner that, in accordance with MPEP 809, "should any linking claim be allowed, the restriction requirement must be withdrawn."